



Assessment Notes...

From the Standards and Assessment Division

May 13, 2003

California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE)

No July Administration

After a careful study of the possibility to offer the CHSPE during the summer, it has been decided not to offer this option. As a result of requests for a summer administration from students and parents/guardians, the California Department of Education (CDE) asked schools, districts, and test sites to project the number of students who might take the CHSPE at that time. Responses, however, were far below the number of examinees needed to recover the costs of administering the exam as required by California law. The CHSPE will be offered next on Saturday, November 15, 2003.

One Registration Form to be Used for CHSPE

There is only one Registration Form that should be used by students who want to take the CHSPE. The form is available in the *Information Bulletin* on the CDE Web site <www.cde.ca.gov/statetests/chspe>. The form used in previous years should not to be used by those who want to take the CHSPE. Apparently, some books with a focus on the CHSPE still include the old registration form; therefore, please be certain that only the form on the CDE Web site is used and destroy any old forms.

Requirement to Announce CHSPE

California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Subchapter 8, Article 1, Section 11523 requires the following:

“The school district superintendent shall require the principal of each school maintaining either or both grades 11 and 12 to distribute to each pupil in those grades an announcement explaining the California High School Proficiency Examination provided for under Education Code Section 48412. Upon receipt of the announcements from the State Department of Education or its contractor, distribution shall be made in sufficient time to enable interested pupils to meet all examination registration requirements for the fall test of that year.”

School Exemption Open to Qualifying 15 Year Olds

The CDE Legal Office has advised the Standards and Assessment Division that “a 15-year-old who either completes 10th grade or will complete 10th grade at the end of the semester in which the CHSPE is next administered, and passes the proficiency exam, and has parent approval, is thereafter exempt from attending

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This publication is designed to assist county, district, and school personnel who are responsible for state testing programs. This publication is produced by:

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any kind of school. Although 16-year-old students are more likely to avail themselves of this opportunity, there is no statutory obstacle to a student under 16 using it, if they meet the above criteria. To the extent that Title 5 California Code of Regulations Section 11522 suggests that the school exemption form should only be available to 16 and 17-year-olds, that limit would excessively limit the statute. Therefore, the regulation should not be interpreted as preventing qualifying 15-year-olds from seeking the exemption."

CHSPE Web Site Updated

The CHSPE Web site at <www.cde.ca.gov/statetests/chspe> has been updated by adding:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- An email address to which questions may be sent
- Updates to the *Information Bulletin*

In the next couple of weeks, we will post updated information regarding requests for certificates or transcripts. Please check the Web site regularly.

Over 5,000 Students Take CHSPE in April

Thanks to everyone who contributed to registering students and administering the CHSPE on April 26, 2003. The test administrator, Sacramento County of Education, reports that 5,063 students took the exam at 79 sites throughout the state. Results will be mailed to students beginning around May 23. Rosters of passing examinees will be sent to district and county superintendents after June 1.

For More Information...

For more information about the CHSPE or other state assessments, contact the Standards and Assessment Division of the California Department of Education at (916) 445-8420 (phone), at (916) 319-0967 (fax), at <CHSPE@cde.ca.gov> (e-mail), or at <<http://www.cde.ca.gov/statetests>> (Internet). Your questions will be directed to the appropriate person.